## Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One



## **Commanding Officer's Policy Statement on Sexual Assault**

Sexual assault will not be tolerated.

Sexual assault is a crime not limited to a specific gender, race, or age. Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, physical threat of force or abuse of authority; or when the victim does not or cannot consent.

Victims of sexual assault will be treated with sensitivity, decency, and respect. Victims will receive appropriate medical, emotional, psychological, and social services. Care will be given to ensure that the identity of a victim of sexual assault is released only to those who have a need to know.

Victim safety is paramount at all times. Victims who choose to make a restricted report will have that choice honored to the fullest extent. Victims who have the courage to report must feel confident that their personal safety will be protected and that they will not be re-victimized in any way. Marines/Sailors who are sexually assaulted are physically, mentally, and emotionally traumatized and wounded.

Alcohol use is frequently cited in sexual assault incidents. Irresponsible consumption of alcohol can place a Marine at increased risk. It is imperative that Marines take care of each other and not allow a fellow Marine to be victimized due to intoxication.

Sexual assault is a complete and total contradiction of our core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. Eliminating sexual assault is an all-hands effort. I challenge every member of the MAWTS-1 team to accept responsibility for achieving this goal. Our Marines, Sailors, and family members deserve nothing less than our complete dedication to this cause.

James H. Adams

Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps Commanding Officer, MAWTS-1